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Message Text

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16
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /121 W
---------- 012990
R 090955 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1401

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAGION 8139

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR VS
SUBJECT: ICCS: NEW ERA OF GVN/ CANDEL CO- OPERATION

QUOTE THA TRANG 477 DTD MAY 73: BEGIN QUOTE:

HUNGARIAN LIEUTENANT ON BAO LOC TEAM TOLD POLOFF LAM DONG
THAT HUNGDEL NOW HAS ORDERS TO MAKE UNOFFICIAL INITIAL
INVESTIGATIONS OF COMPLAINTS SUBMITTED BY GVN, AS CANDEL HAS
BEEN DOING ALL ALONG. FIRST ATTEMPT BY HUNGDEL TO IMPLEMENT
THEIR NEW ORDERS CAME MAY 4 WHEN THEY ASKED TO ACCOMPANY CANDEL
OFFICER ON PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF MINING INCIDENT INVOLVING
RF IN DI LINH DISTRICT APRIL 26. CANADIAN CAPTAIN HOWEVER
REFUSED TO ALLOW HUNGARIANS TO COME ALONG. CAPTAIN LATER TOLD
POLOFF THAT HIS REASON FOR REFUSING WAS THAT HE WAS USING HIS
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS TO DRILL GVN CHIEF OF LOCAL TPJMT
ON PROPER METHOD FOR VIETNAMESE TO USE IN THEIR OWN INVESTIGATIONS
BEFORE CALLING IN ICCS TEAM OR SUBMITTING COMPLAINT OF
VIOLATION, E. G. WHAT EVIDENCE IS REQUIRED TYPE OF WITNESSES
NEEDED AND HOW WITNESSES SHOULD CONDUCT THEMSELVES DURING FULL
ICCS INVESTIGATION. UNDERSTANDABLY CANADIAN DID NOT WANT
HUNGARIANS ALONG FOR THIS EXERCISE.
AS IT WAS, CANDEL CAPTAIN WAS APPALLED AT RESULTS OF HIS OWN
INVESTIGATION. GVN MEMBERS OF TPJMC HAD NOT RPT NOT VISITED
INCIDENT SITE BEFOREHAND TO DETERMINE IF THERE WAS SOLID BASIS
UPON WHICH TO BUILD THEIR CASE. INDIVIDUAL RF SOLDIERS INVOLVED
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COULD NOT REMEMBER THEIR EXACT POSITIONS WHEN MINE EXPLODED, NOR
THE POSITION OF WOUNDED MAN AFTER THEEXPLOSION. CANANDIAN SAID
THAT HUNGARIANS AND POLES WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TEAR THE COMP-
LAINT APART.

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ON MAY 7, SAME CANADIAN IN CONTINUING EFFORT TO CREATE
" NEW ERA" OF COOPERATION BETWEEN GVN AND ICCS ARRANGED MEETING
ON MAY 8 BETWEEN PROVINCE CHIEF HIS DEPUTIES AND CANADIANS.
CANADIAN OFFICERS HAVE ARRIVED IN BAO LOC FROM TEAMS THROUGHOUT
REGION IV FOR THE MEETING. END NHA TRANG QUOTE
AMEMBASSY SAIGON COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST SUCH CASE TO COME
TO OUR ATTENTION INVOLVING CANDEL " DRILLING" OF GVN AUTHORITIES IN
HOW TO HANDLE INVESTIGATIONS. IT COULD BE A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT
AND WILL ONLY FURTHER ISOLATE CANDEL FROM OTHER HIPDELS AND
EXPOSE IT TO CRITICISM FOR BEING GVN SUPPORTERS. WE ARE RAISING
THIS MATTER INFORMALLY WITH CANDEL.
BUNKER

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NMAFVVZCZ
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